



Department
for Business
Innovation & Skills

**Graduate Labour Market Statistics
Consultation Document**

NOVEMBER 2015

Contents

Graduate Labour Market Statistics	3
1. Executive Summary	4
2. How to respond.....	5
3. Confidentiality & Data Protection.....	6
4. Help with queries	6
5. The proposals.....	7
6. Consultation questions (found in Annex C)	8
7. What happens next?	8
Annex A: Consultation principles	9
Comments or complaints on the conduct of this consultation	9
Annex B: List of Individuals/Organisations consulted	10
Annex C: Graduate Labour Market Statistics response form.....	11
Question 1	12
Question 2	12
Question 3	13
Question 4	13
Question 5	14
Question 6	14
Do you have any other comments that might aid the consultation process as a whole?.....	15

Graduate Labour Market Statistics

Graduate Labour Market Statistics (GLMS) is a quarterly publication covering labour market conditions for English domiciled graduates and postgraduates relative to non-graduates. GLMS was first published in December 2014 and was designed to be published on a quarterly basis. The statistics are published as experimental statistics by BIS and are being evaluated to ensure they meet users' needs. This consultation seeks views from users of the GLMS on the frequency and content of future GLMS releases.

Issued: 17 November 2015

Respond by: 1 December 2015

Enquiries to:

Patrick Vanderpant
Higher Education Analysis
5th Floor, Abbey 2
Department of Business, Innovation and Skills
1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET
Tel: 0207 7215 4166
Email: Patrick.vanderpant@bis.gsi.gov.uk

Emma Sadler
Higher Education Analysis
1st floor, Bay G,
Department for Business, Innovation and Skills
2 St. Paul's Place, 125 Norfolk Street, Sheffield, S1 2FJ
Tel: 0114 207 5334
Email: Emma.sadler@bis.gsi.gov.uk

This consultation is relevant to users of the Graduate Labour Market Statistics.

1. Executive Summary

Graduate Labour Market Statistics (hereafter referred to as GLMS) is produced by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (BIS). GLMS is a quarterly publication that uses the Labour Force Survey¹ to report on the labour market conditions for English domiciled graduates and postgraduates relative to non-graduates.

The GLMS Q3 2014 release published on the 9th December 2014 was the first publication in the series and statistics for July to September (Q3) 2014. Since then, there have been three further quarterly publications, which cover the period from Q4 2014 to Q2 2015. As these are classed as experimental statistics, the one year point is a logical time to assess their continuing value and whether they are meeting users' needs.

This consultation seeks to gather information on:

1. Who uses the GLMS, for what purpose and how BIS can make the GLMS more useful.
2. Users' views on the future frequency and content of the GLMS, including the proposal to release the statistics on an annual rather than quarterly basis.

The consultation period will last 2 weeks from 17 November 2015 until 1 December 2015. Responses to the consultation will be collated in the weeks following and will be summarised in the consultation response. The responses will be used to determine the format and frequency of the next Graduate Labour Market Statistics release.

Links to all previous GLMS publications, supporting data and the methodology note can be found on the gov.uk website at the following link:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/collections/graduate-labour-market-quarterly-statistics>.

¹ The Labour Force Survey is conducted by the Office for National Statistics. Further information on the survey can be found here: <http://www.ons.gov.uk/ons/guide-method/method-quality/specific/labour-market/labour-market-statistics/index.html>

2. How to respond

When responding, please state whether you are responding as an individual or representing the views of an organisation. If you are responding on behalf of an organisation, please make it clear who the organisation represents by selecting the appropriate interest group on the consultation form and, where applicable, how the views of members were assembled.

The consultation response form is available electronically on the consultation page: <https://www.gov.uk/government/consultations/-graduate-labour-market-statistics-content-and-frequency-of-future-releases> (until the consultation closes). The form can be submitted by email or by letter to:

Patrick Vanderpant
Higher Education Analysis
Fifth Floor, Abbey 2
Department of Business, Innovation and Skills
1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET
Tel: 0207 7215 4166
Email: Patrick.vanderpant@bis.gsi.gov.uk

Emma Sadler
Higher Education Analysis
1st floor, Bay G,
Department for Business, Innovation and Skills
2 St. Paul's Place, 125 Norfolk Street, Sheffield, S1 2FJ
Tel: 0114 207 5334
Email: Emma.sadler@bis.gsi.gov.uk

A list of those organisations and individuals consulted is in Annex B. We would welcome suggestions of others who may wish to be involved in this consultation process.

You may make printed copies of this document without seeking permission.

BIS consultations are digital by default but if required printed copies of the consultation document can be obtained from:

BIS Publications Orderline
ADMAIL 528
London SW1W 8YT
Tel: 0845-015 0010
Fax: 0845-015 0020
Minicom: 0845-015 0030
<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications?departments%5B%5D=department-for-business-innovation-skills>

Other versions of the document in Braille, other languages or audio-cassette are available on request.

3. Confidentiality & Data Protection

Information provided in response to this consultation, including personal information, may be subject to publication or release to other parties or to disclosure in accordance with the access to information regimes (these are primarily the Freedom of Information Act 2000 (FOIA), the Data Protection Act 1998 (DPA) and the Environmental Information Regulations 2004). If you want information, including personal data that you provide to be treated as confidential, please be aware that, under the FOIA, there is a statutory Code of Practice with which public authorities must comply and which deals, amongst other things, with obligations of confidence.

In view of this it would be helpful if you could explain to us why you regard the information you have provided as confidential. If we receive a request for disclosure of the information we will take full account of your explanation, but we cannot give an assurance that confidentiality can be maintained in all circumstances. An automatic confidentiality disclaimer generated by your IT system will not, of itself, be regarded as binding on the Department.

4. Help with queries

Questions about the policy issues raised in the document can be addressed to:

Patrick Vanderpant
Higher Education Analysis
Fifth Floor, Abbey 2
Department of Business, Innovation and Skills
1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET
Tel: 0207 7215 4166
Email: Patrick.vanderpant@bis.gsi.gov.uk

Emma Sadler
Higher Education Analysis
1st floor, Bay G,
Department for Business, Innovation and Skills
2 St. Paul's Place, 125 Norfolk Street, Sheffield, S1 2FJ
Tel: 0114 207 5334
Email: Emma.sadler@bis.gsi.gov.uk

The consultation principles are in Annex A.

5. The proposals

This consultation seeks to gather information on:

1. Who uses the GLMS, for what purpose and how BIS can make the GLMS more useful
2. Users' views on the future frequency and content of the GLMS, including the proposal to release the statistics on an annual rather than quarterly basis.

Following four publications of GLMS we are reviewing the release and considering different options for its future direction. GLMS are published as experimental statistics and we want to ensure they meet users' needs.

Following an internal review of the data we are proposing to release the statistics on an annual basis rather than to continue with a quarterly publication schedule. The reasons behind this proposal are twofold;

- Publishing statistics on a quarterly basis naturally leads to comparisons between quarters, which given the trends and seasonal variability noticed in the first four publications, are not recommended. This focus on quarterly changes can distract from the more relevant year-on-year comparisons included in the current GLMS. An annual publication would seek to summarise the trends from the previous 12 months of data which would provide additional context to the scale of any changes and would also offer an opportunity to provide further breakdowns of the data.
- There are continuing efforts within the department to use analytical resources as efficiently as possible. By reducing the frequency of the release we will be able to provide further breakdowns of the data and provide more detailed analysis of the longer term trends within the graduate labour market.

6. Consultation questions (found in Annex C)

1. For what purpose do you use the Graduate Labour Market Statistics publication?
2. How frequently do you or your organisation use or refer to the Graduate Labour Market Statistics?

Very frequent – 12+ times a year

Frequently – between 4-11 times a year

Infrequent – 2-3 times a year

Once

Never
3. What would be the impact on you/your organisation if the frequency of the publication was:
 - a. reduced to an annual publication?
 - b. no longer published?
4. The current publication focusses on:
 - four main labour market outcomes; employment, high skill employment rate, unemployment and median salary,
 - three groups; postgraduates, graduates and non-graduates
 - two age categories; 16-64 year olds and 21-30 year olds.

Are these breakdowns useful? We would be grateful if you could highlight those that are more useful and those that are less useful.

5. Do you have suggestions for further breakdowns of the data that could be included in future publications and could you explain why these would be helpful to you or your organisation?
6. If the GLMS is published on an annual basis it will contain analysis of trends in the graduate labour market over time, likely to cover the areas outlined above in Question 4. Are there any further areas of interest that should be considered in this trend analysis?

7. What happens next?

Once the consultation period finishes a decision on the future of the GLMS will be made promptly, with a summary of views expressed and reasons for decisions to be published on the BIS website.

Annex A: Consultation principles

The principles that Government departments and other public bodies should adopt for engaging stakeholders when developing policy and legislation are set out in the consultation principles.

<http://www.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/sites/default/files/resources/Consultation-Principles.pdf>

Comments or complaints on the conduct of this consultation

If you wish to comment on the conduct of this consultation or make a complaint about the way this consultation has been conducted, please write to:

Angela Rabess
BIS Consultation Co-ordinator,
1 Victoria Street,
London
SW1H 0ET

Telephone Angela on 020 7215 1661
or e-mail to: angela.rabess@bis.gsi.gov.uk

However if you wish to comment on the specific policy proposals you should contact the project lead (see section 4)

Annex B: List of Individuals/Organisations consulted

Government Departments

Department for Education
Department for Work and Pensions
HM Treasury
Office for National Statistics
United Kingdom Statistics Authority
HM Revenues and Customs

Public bodies

Higher Education Funding Council for England (HEFCE)
Office for Fair Access (OFFA)
UK Commission for Employment and Skills (UKCES)
HE Academy

External stakeholders

Higher Education Statistics Agency (HESA)
The Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA)
Higher Education Careers Service Unit (HECSU)
Student Loans Company (SLC)
Universities UK
Guild HE
Russell Group
University Alliance
Million +
HEPI
NUS
NCUB
Sutton Trust
Nuffield Foundation
Trade Union Congress (TUC)
Association of Graduate Careers Advisory Services (AGCAS)
Association of Graduate Recruiters (AGR)
High Fliers
Gradcore
Study UK
Association of Colleges (AOC)

Annex C: Graduate Labour Market Statistics response form

The Department may, in accordance with the Code of Practice on Access to Government Information, make available, on public request, individual responses.

The closing date for this consultation is 1 December 2015.

Name:

Organisation (if applicable):

Address:

Please return completed forms to:

Patrick Vanderpant

Higher Education Analysis

Fifth Floor, Abbey 2

Department of Business, Innovation and Skills

1 Victoria Street, London, SW1H 0ET

Tel: 0207 7215 4166

Email: Patrick.vanderpant@bis.gsi.gov.uk

Please tick a box from a list of options that best describes you as a respondent:

<input type="checkbox"/>	Academic
<input type="checkbox"/>	Business representative organisation/trade body
<input type="checkbox"/>	Central government
<input type="checkbox"/>	Charity or social enterprise
<input type="checkbox"/>	Individual
<input type="checkbox"/>	Large business (over 250 staff)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Legal representative
<input type="checkbox"/>	Local Government
<input type="checkbox"/>	Medium business (50 to 250 staff)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Micro business (up to 9 staff)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Small business (10 to 49 staff)
<input type="checkbox"/>	Trade union or staff association
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other (please describe)

Question 1

For what purpose do you use the Graduate Labour Market Statistics publication?

Comments:

Question 2

How frequently do you or your organisation use or refer to the Graduate Labour Market Statistics?

- Very frequent – 12+ times a year
- Frequently – between 4-11 times a year
- Infrequent – 2-3 times a year
- Once
- Never

Comments:

Question 3

What would be the impact on you/your organisation if the frequency of the publication was:

a) reduced to an annual publication?

b) no longer published?

Comments:

Question 4

The current publication focusses on:

- four main labour market outcomes; employment, high skill employment rate, unemployment and median salary
- three groups; postgraduates, graduates and non-graduates
- two age categories; 16-64 year olds and 21-30 year olds

Are these breakdowns useful? We would be grateful if you could highlight those that are more useful and those that are less useful.

Comments:

Question 5

Do you have suggestions for further breakdowns that could be included in future publications and could you explain why these would be helpful to you or your organisation?

Comments:

Question 6

If the GLMS is published on an annual basis it will contain analysis of trends in the graduate labour market over time, likely to cover the areas outlined above in Question 4. Are there any further areas of interest that should be considered in this trend analysis?

Comments:

Do you have any other comments that might aid the consultation process as a whole?

Please use this space for any general comments that you may have, comments on the layout of this consultation would also be welcomed.

Comments:

Thank you for taking the time to let us have your views. We do not intend to acknowledge receipt of individual responses unless you tick the box below.

Please acknowledge this reply

At BIS we carry out our research on many different topics and consultations. As your views are valuable to us, would it be okay if we were to contact you again from time to time either for research or to send through consultation documents?

Yes

No



© Crown copyright 2015

This publication is licensed under the terms of the Open Government Licence v3.0 except where otherwise stated. To view this licence, visit nationalarchives.gov.uk/doc/open-government-licence/version/3 or write to the Information Policy Team, The National Archives, Kew, London TW9 4DU, or email: psi@nationalarchives.gsi.gov.uk.

Where we have identified any third party copyright information you will need to obtain permission from the copyright holders concerned.

This publication is available from www.gov.uk/bis

Contact us if you have any enquiries about this publication, including requests for alternative formats, at:

Department for Business, Innovation and Skills
1 Victoria Street
London SW1H 0ET
Tel: 020 7215 5000
Email:
enquiries@bis.gsi.gov.uk

BIS/15/618